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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Proposed Formation of Export-
Import G.m.b.H.

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1. On 30 March, Col. Mikhin called in Josef Orlopp and asked him for recommendations on ways of supervising the conduct of foreign trade. Mikhin expressed the opinion that the private firms at present conducting foreign trade are abusing their position to pocket excessive profits by means of black market transactions despite control measures by SMA and German authorities.
2. Orlopp suggested that an Export-Import GmbH. be formed with the majority of the stock in the hands of Orlopp's own administration; the remaining shares would be owned by a few private wholesalers and the Industrie-und Handelskontore of the states of the Russian zone.
3. Mikhin agreed in principle with Orlopp's suggestion and directed him to work out a complete draft. Mikhin also agreed to the suggestion that Schmitz, president of the Industrie-und Handelskammer of Mecklenburg, be put in charge of the new GmbH.

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